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VALLEY STAR

Los Angeles Valley College

Vol. 43, No. 7 | *Thursday, October 31, 1991* | *Van Nuys, California*

New wave wheels...

LEN LY / Valley Star

FLYIN BLADES — Jimmy Cavalet, Valley music major, improves his roller hockey skills nearby the tennis courts every evening. "It's a great way to get in shape and it's not as dangerous as people think," he said. A big hockey fan, Cavalet is perfecting his skills in hope of obtaining a spot on a professional league hockey team.

Valley caught in enrollment Catch-22

"In three to four years [the budget program] could be very bad, much worse than what we've seen; We will need your cooperation to pull it off"

—Neil Yoneji addressing the Acad. Sen.

By CHRIS MAYDA
Staff Writer

Over-enrolling provides "a better model of prediction," Neil Yoneji, LACCD's vice chancellor of business affairs, said at the Academic Senate meeting last Thursday.

This is the antithesis to the "close your doors" advice offered by Chancellor Donald Phelps when he visited the Senate a few weeks ago.

"This presents a difficult dilemma," Jack Sterk, Valley's faculty said. "Chancellor Phelps says don't pack the classes."

The Senate could not find a change in funding for Valley which will be forced to cut more than 150 classes from last spring's schedule. "We feel deeply underfunded—without a light at the end of the tunnel; we have no way to reverse the trend," Sterk said.

Money allocation is an additional problem to the Catch 22-situation that has settled on Valley. According to Sterk, Valley has always been a very efficient school, a "talk and chalk" school that costs less per student and that has continually subsidized many of the other schools in the district.

The subsidized amounts are never paid back, while budget cuts continue to compile, leaving Valley to provide a higher percentage of its budget to other schools.

"This is all right in good times, but in bad times there is less money; [Valley has an] historical inequity which has become institutionalized," Sterk said.

Based on an Average Daily Attendance (ADA), Valley's budget is less than other schools such as Trade Tech or LACC with low ADA's. Valley's ADA of 8,184 receives a budget of $13.6 million while LACC receives $14.3 million for an ADA of 7,503—almost $250 less per student.

Although Yoneji recognized the situation at the meeting, he refused to budge on the allocated funds for the upcoming semester. "I don't plan to disrupt the proposition," Yoneji said. "I know it's troublesome for you, but when the board is preempted in mid-year, it screws up credibility."

"In three or four years [the budget problem] could be very bad, much worse than what we've seen," Yoneji continued, "we will need your cooperation to pull it off," he told the Senate.

Yoneji also pointed out that the problems go beyond just district funding. The state caps enrollment despite a mandated liberal admissions policy, and although the cap grows about two per cent annually, it limits state funding. With the liberal admissions policy, the districts are forced by law to exceed the state funding, forcing them to educate more students for less dollars.

"If your mission is to teach students, then it has to do with teaching the students and not with the problems of allocation," Yoneji said. "The college provides a whole array of services, however it is not necessary to provide the whole array. The emphasis is to teach students," Yoneji concluded.

No cheers for Valley

By JENNIFER CASE
Editor in chief

There were few cheers for the Valley football team who lost 10-7 last week in Bakersfield. Only one out of the 14 cheerleaders and their Choreography Coach even made it to the rainy game last Saturday due to lack of transportation, leaving the players to get motivated on their own.

Choreographer Coach Edward Santos said that they would've had transportation if they had had enough support.

"I don't feel the president of the school [Mary Lee] is behind us," he said.

According to Santos, ASU Adviser, Glenn Hisayasu, the ASU president, Erica Hauck, and Athletic Director, Chuck Ferrero, are all supportive of the cheerleaders, but he doesn't like that they should have to get approval from a higher level to get what they need.

Since the cheerleaders are not able to ride to the games with the players on the team bus, they must find their own means of transportation.

Santos said there is a van on campus that is available and said he feels the cheerleaders should be able to use it "with no questions asked."

However, Hauck said that those financial decisions are made by standing committees in the College Council, not be Lee.

Before the game, a few members of the team went to the ASU Executive Council and asked them to fund a van for their Bakersfield trip. ASU approved the funding.

However, the van didn't show up, and the cheerleaders couldn't car pool to Bakersfield on such short notice, Cheerleader Co-Captain Tara Simms said.

Hisayasu said he told two or three members of the team that they were supposed to tell Ferrero that they received funding and he would then make the arrangements.

"Everything went through, but no one took the time to tell Chuck," he said.

But Simms said that "she really didn't know what was going on," and it was never explained that we were to go through Chuck.

She thought that after they got the funding, and reserved a van through Plant Facilities, that it would be taken care of.

However, only one cheerleader made it to the game.

"They do a good job, and they haven't got a lot of institutional support. They just didn't follow through," Hisayasu said.

"It was just a screw up," Ferrero said.

Loose Leaves

Education In America

Part Four of a Continuing Series

This column lists tidbits of news concerning education in America that you might have missed during the year. Some items are funny, some are pathetic, some are important, some are interesting and some are infuriating. We will leave it to your discretion as to what items fit into what catagories.

AUGUST 1991 The latest offering in "money-back guarantees" has been given by a private Stockton-based school the University of the Pacific. The university stated that it would pay a student's annual tuition of $14,480 if a student could not graduate within four years because the classes required for graduation were unavailable at the school.

SEPTEMBER 1991 A study conducted by the California State Assembly Higher Education Committee found that 20 Cal State universities had dropped roughly 10 percent of their scheduled classes. For example, Cal State Northridge dropped 625 out of 6,044 classes.

Assemblyman Tom Hayden, D-Los Angeles, suggested to university officials that they use a $33 million lottery reserve fund to keep the classes open. The officials stated that the universities could not use the principal amount because it is currently being used in long-term investments which would benefit the campuses in the future.

SEPTEMBER 1991 Higher education is facing budgetary problems across the nation. San Antonio college in Texas has cut its academic and occupational-technical department preliminary budgets by 30 percent for the 1991-1992 year. In addition, they have frozen salaries for faculty and staff and reduced the number of lecturers and part-time workers. Students will have to pay $1 for their 1992 course catalogs and deal with increased tuition rates.

SEPTEMBER 1991 Part-time faculty have been hit hard by budgetary problems. In El Camino one-third of the summer class offerings were cut which greatly eliminated the need for part-time faculty.

SEPTEMBER 1991 California State Senator Gary Hart, D-Santa Barbara, is sponsoring a number of bills this year which are of particular interest to anyone pursuing a community college education:

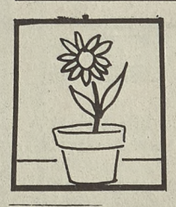
SB 121 Is an attempt to improve the transfer function of community colleges and would require the colleges to establish special transfer relationships with three UC and five CSU campuses.

SB 119 Is a bond measure which would provide $900 million for construction and remodeling on college campuses. The bond is being prepared for the 1992 June ballot.

SCA8 Deals with asking the voters to approve a state Constitutional amendment which would allow college districts and school boards to request increases in property taxes directly from voters.

SB976 Community colleges would receive approximately $4 million to be used in ESL and basic skill programs from an oil-price-fixing settlement with the state.

Club News



VALLEY GREEN

Preparations are underway for Fall Earth Day scheduled for Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Monarch Square. Confirmed guests speakers from such environmental groups as Heal the Bay, Greenpeace, Tree People, Sierra Club, Zero Population and the San Fernando Valley Environmental Coalition will address methods to heal the earth.

Valley's administration will also conduct a ribbon-cutting ceremony to kick off Valley's new recycling program.

BSU BLACK STUD. UNION

B.S.U. would like to announce its elected officers for the fall semester: Steven Jackson, president, Paul Hotch, vice president, Shannon Calland, chief justice, Emma Jackson, records secretary, Phillip Boozer II, treasurer, Shawn Hill, director of public relations, Richard Alston and Tara Sims, Men and Women's athletic directors and Ajete Bekoe, director of scholastic activities.

The club meets Wednesdays at 1 p.m. in Foreign Language 112.

SPIRIT CLUB

The Spirit Club will be holding a pre-sale of Christmas trees as their first annual fund raiser starting Dec.7 to Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Valley's baseball field.

The spirit club is comprised of members of Valley's men's and women's athletic teams who hold fund raisers to aid costs of team equipment and traveling to away games or meets.

For more information contact Chuck Ferrero, athletic director at ext. 208.

The Day of the Dead

By JESSICA J. CHAVEZ
Staff Writer

The Day of the Dead Has Come; Unlike in this country, Mexico still reserves one of it's oldest customs known as the Day of the Dead; a day of unification between the living and the dead.

In America there is no such reverence; instead there is Halloween, a commercialized version of mocking the dead by dressing up in scary costumes.

A modern-day practice, which is close to older customs (but does not compare spiritually), is reserved for Nov. 2: "All Souls Day," a holy day of obligation (for some) in which the members of the parish remember and pray for the deceased in a mass.

According to the book, "Los Dias De Muertos," by Efrain Cortes Ruiz and Beatriz Oliver Vega, during the first two days of November most of Mexico's population feels a moral obligation to death and makes offerings to the dead.

In Mexico, on the Days of the Dead, people prepare a feast, build an altar and welcome in various ways the deceased. Or they visit the grave and celebrate with the dead at the cemetery.

If they can afford the expense, some families hire musicians for the occasion.

At school children prepare altars for the dead; in town the streets are full with vendors which will sell you anything from a sugar skull with your name on it to special flowers harvested for the festivities.

Mexicans have the doors to their houses open with a trail of flowers on the doorstep leading the dead into their home where the altar awaits their presence.

The altar, covered with candy in the shape of skulls, bread, flowers, candles, fruit and pictures of saints, is decorated with anything which the family believes their guest (the deceased) would like.

The houses are full of life, welcoming and joyous. The favorite food of the deceased is cooked, and sometimes a bottle of wine is opened.

This feast, though seemingly commercial, is taken seriously. For months, previous to the celebration of the Day of the Dead, craftsmen begin making ceramic ornaments for the altars. Florists plant cresta de gallo (cockscomb), siempre-viva (immortal), nardo (tuberose) and other seeds which produce the flower appropriate for the November celebrations.

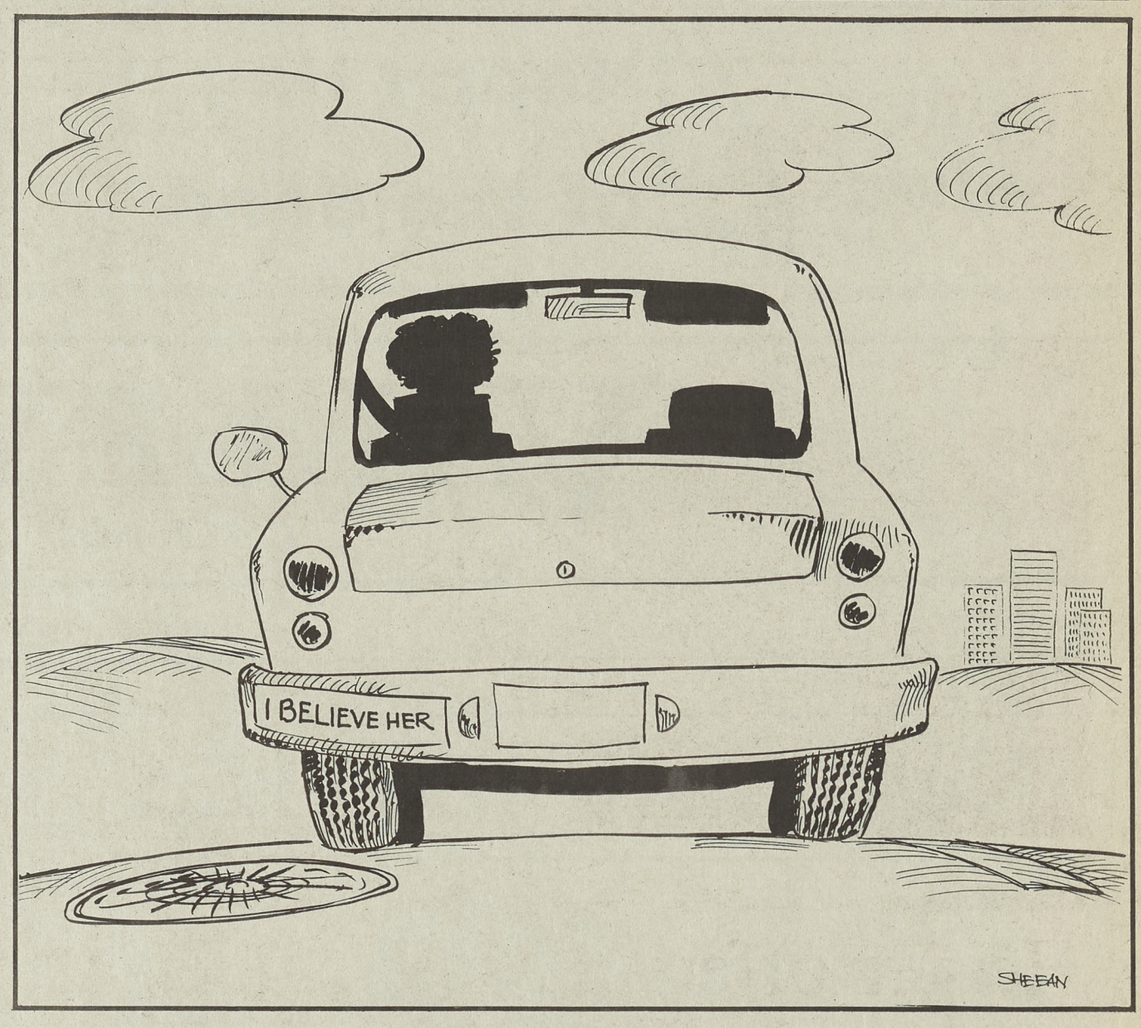
The confectioneries also prepare special candies; the most popular are sugar skulls which have the buyers' name engraved on them. These are given to children from their grandparents or parents as a gift.

Today, with trips to the moon and artificial satellites, it is hard to believe people still make offerings to the dead.

The whole meaning is not to dress up and go trick o'treating or to socialize, the intention lies in the unification and strengthening of the socio-economic relationship of the general population and mainly of the family.

For those which still practice the old customs, the Days of the Dead are not tragic, mournful days. Instead death represents the awakening from the present state "dream" to the "real" world—that of the unknown.

Now that is something to be spooked about.



— Letters to the Editor —

Each woman is unique

Dear Editor:

Having studied modeling and clothing design in the past, I was pleased to read about "Rona Works" However, I found one thing disturbing: Who has the right to dictate who wears what at what age?

True fashion design knows no limits and freedom of choice knows no boundaries. I have seen many beautiful women in their 40s and 50s with lush hair, flawless bodies and wearing head-turning clothes.

These body conscious fashions look just as "hot" on them as they do on women under 25! People should wear what they want regardless of their age! Men and women should not have to be prisoners to fashion choices.

Youth worship is an ego trip that is causing many women to disbelieve their own natural beauty.

Christine Rona's designs look great. But as she has freedom to design them, so should women of all ages be free to wear them if that's what makes them happy. Each individual woman is unique and therefore, whether she is 16 or 60, she knows in her own creative thoughts what she feels is good for her.

Jody Lawson
office admin./music major

Take your complaints to ASU

Dear Editor:

The "Dismayed by display" opinion article [this was actually a Letter to the Editor] in the Oct. 24, 1991 edition of the *Valley Star* was quite interesting.

Mike Palumbo, the student who submitted the opinion article, seems to have a complaint that he wishes to address to the students of this college through your forum.

It is admirable that he wishes to express his first amendment rights. However, I would advise students who have a complaint against any ASU related activity, club, or officer, to come before the ASU Supreme Court, and petition the court to hear the specific case. [As Chief Justice of ASU] I can be found in Campus Center 102, room E, and my mailboxes are with the other ASU mailboxes in Campus Center 102. My office hours are posted on my office window.

The ASU Supreme Court, under the ASU Constitution, represents all students at LAVC with regards to student government functions, actions, and activities. All students are welcome to address any legitimate grievances that they have against the ASU, in our forum, and be heard fairly.

Mike Palumbo is certainly welcomed to do so; and, GALA has every right to defend itself, legally, under our established forum-and to participate in our forum-accordingly.

Eathan Guler Chief Justice ASU
psychology major

Appalled by editor's presentation

Dear Editor:

Although I disagree with almost everything Mike Palumbo had to say in his letter to the *Valley Star* last week, I was appalled at your handling of it. I was taught that it is part of an editor's job to clean up incorrect spelling, etc. I know that some of my letters have been corrected.

It seems that you either wanted to embarrass Mr. Palumbo for having non-politically correct ideas or you wanted to point out his ignorance to us.

I for one prefer to form my own opinions based on a letter's content and I am disturbed that you would subject this student's use of the language to ridicule in an apparent effort to influence readers.

Free speech means that all sides have a voice. There are many ways to deny or discourage the exercise of this right. Newspapers have a lot of power in this area and, thus, a heavy obligation also.

Clover Phalen
philosophy major

Frustrated faculty

Dear Editor:

We read with embarrassment and frustration the letter to the editor written by Mike Palumbo, a student at Valley College, concerning a collage mounted by GALA.

We were embarrassed for him in that Mr. Palumbo apparently has no conception of the function of higher education.

We were frustrated because those of us involved in higher education must constantly show that the role of higher education is to open up new avenues of thought, not confirm prior prejudices.

Higher education demands examination and analysis and that usually leads to understanding and tolerance.

Homosexuality is not such an abnormal state if we consider that it probably affects at least 10 percent of the population, has existed since the time of ancient civilization at least, and exists in most societies today.

Signed by 27 faculty members

Glad for reminder

Dear Editor:

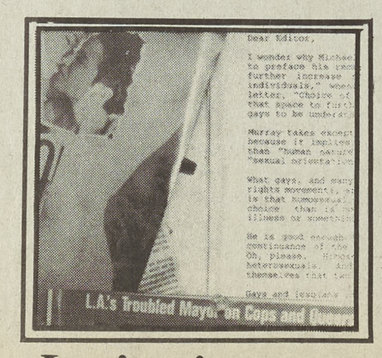
Many thanks to Mike Palumbo for alerting me to the very effective display which GALA put into the main showcase in Monarch Hall. Had I not read his letter to the editor I might not have remembered to stop by and see it.

GALA members did an excellent job of presenting a subculture which for too many years has hidden in the shadows of fear and desperation.

I am delighted that in the last few years gays and lesbians have had the courage to come out and show a positive role model for the world to consider.

I'm also delighted to be associated with outstanding men and women who make up GALA on the campus of Valley College.

Pat Allen
Faculty Sponsor of GALA



Invitation from GALA President

Dear Editor:

This is in regard to the letter written by Mike Palumbo, who was made "sick to his stomach" after viewing the display in Monarch Hall.

The display, contrary to Mr. Palumbo's assumption, is not an attempt to heighten one's awareness of this alternative lifestyle. It is, however, an attempt to show the student body that the gays and lesbians on campus are an active and strong entity. Unlike others, we are not trying to force our beliefs upon anyone. Our goal is to create an atmosphere of openness and understanding for all students here at Valley.

It distresses me that what makes Mr. Palumbo physically ill is the visual display of men showing affection toward one another. People showing affection toward each other, regardless of gender combination, should never be considered obscene.

I feel it is a perversion of humanity when humans cannot raise their own moral and intellectual state of being to the point where they are secure enough to accept others as they are, public or private.

I invite Mr. Palumbo, and all others, to come to a meeting of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA) Fridays at 12:30 pm in Humanities 110. Only through open interaction and communication will the walls of intolerance and ignorance come tumbling down.

Thank You,

Stacey Scalise President GALA

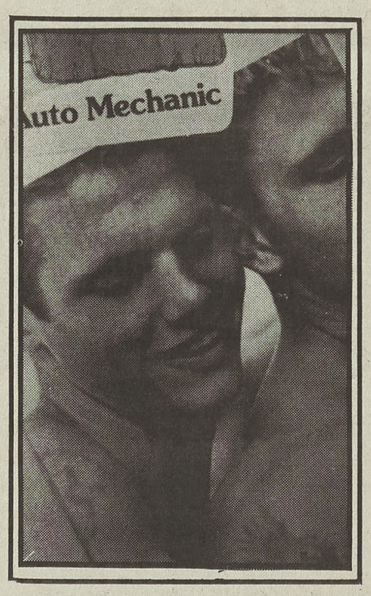
'Are we to put on our blinders?'

Dear Mr. Palumbo:

As I was reading the Oct. 24 issue of the *Valley Star*, I saw the letter you submitted to the editor. I was astonished with the words you used in reference to the collage from GALA. LAVC is an institution of higher education, but people with your narrow way of thinking and perception of reality makes this institution an "institution of lower demoralization." Are we to put on our blinders and not see what is out there? Are we to live in a hole and view the world through tunnel vision?

I feel you were not forced to look at the display, but, it was your own curiosity that prompted you to look at it. Could it be your own subconscious telling you to examine yourself more thoroughly? Your letter was not a vicious attack on GALA or on homosexuals in general, but a realization of the bigotry and ignorance that is displayed in your derogatory letter. You should look in your closet more often before you pass judgement on someone else.

Julian Oscar
Commissioner of Gay and Lesbian Concerns, ASU
history of religion major



Defined

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to Mike Palumbo's letter which ran in your Oct. 24, 1991 Letters to the Editor column, in which he implied homosexuality was a "perversion of humanity."

Mr. Palumbo, according to Webster's New World Dictionary of The American Language, second edition, 1980, the standing definitions of perverse and humanity are as follows:

perverse 1. deviating from what is considered right or good; wrong, improper, etc. or corrupt, wicked, etc; perverted.

humanity 1. the fact or quality of being human; humane nature.

Therefore, perversions of humanity are things which are wrong and corrupt and subtract from the quality of being human.

The enslavement, rape, and continuing systematic oppression of African-Americans and other minority groups in America was and is a perversion of humanity.

Waging the Gulf War, which killed thousands of humans to protect the positions of power and economic interest of a few was a perversion of humanity.

Wilson vetoing AB 101, a bill which would have insured and defended employment rights, after promising his constituents he would pass it was a perversion of humanity.

[President George] Bush increasing military spending, while cutting funds for education, health care, and affordable housing after promising his presidency would yield "A kinder gentler nation" is a most heinous perversion of humanity.

As to men hugging and kissing other men, hugs and kisses are expressions of love Mr. Palumbo; the expression of love by consenting adults will never be wrong and will never subtract from the quality of being human.

Love will never be a perversion of humanity.

Colette Griggsby
member of GALA, BSU,
Pro Choice and
Student Coalition for Peace

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Editorial and Advertising Offices
5800 Fulton Ave. Van Nuys, CA. 91401
Phone (818)781-1200, Ext. 275/276
Advertising Ext.239

JENNIFER L. CASE
Editor in Chief

JULIE D. BAILEY
Advertising Director

Represented by CASS
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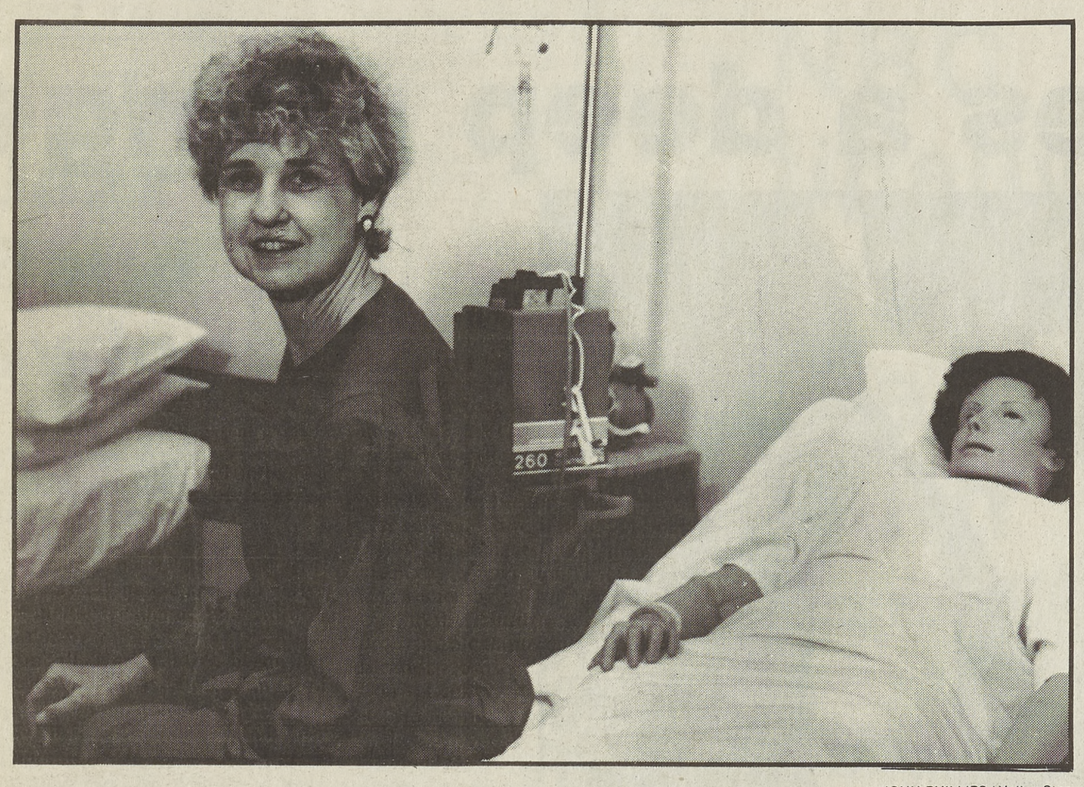
★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★

The **Valley Star** is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The **Star** reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the **Valley Star** office, Bungalow 25, by Monday **morning** for the following Thursday.



JOHN PHILLIPS / Valley Star

BEDSIDE MANNER — Cindy Heister is the newest nursing instructor at Valley College.

Heister offers nursing students a 'myriad of opportunities'

By CHRISTOPHER D. SHARPE
View Editor

Valley College has recently acquired Cindy Heister, of the nursing department into its fold of teachers.

"This was the college I wanted to go to, Heister said. "I like the community base and I'm from here." Heister was born in the San Fernando Valley and graduated from Birmingham High.

Heister said she "has always wanted to go into nursing" and after graduating from high school she spent two years at Pierce College and later achieved her B.S. degree in nursing from Cal State L.A.

Since attaining her degree, Heister has worked in the fields of psychology nursing and medical surgical nursing but her specialty was to be in oncology (cancer) nursing. She returned to school and managed to obtain a masters degree in oncology from UCLA. Working as a clinical specialist in cancer nursing, Heister was given the opportunity to teach undergraduate nursing at USC.

At this point she realized teaching would be "the facet of nursing for [which to spend] the rest of my career," she said.

After teaching at USC for seven years, Heister was hired and placed at Valley.

"My objectives as a teacher is to reach as many people as possible who want to come into nursing; to guide them and to help them enter the professional field," she said.

"Education is a real priority because of the great shortage in nursing; We need to make nursing education accessible to people that are motivated to enter the profession," Heister said.

Nursing is a profession which offers a myriad of opportunities. It's a profession that enables people to be mobile and to work in all types of settings.

Opportunities are limitless and nurses are in great demand. "This is one profession where we don't have to worry about layoffs or not finding a job if we move out of town or out of state; This is very unique these days."

Future nurses profit

By ANNA L. VILLA
News Editor

● Nursing students receive scholarships and encouragement from a local chapter of the American Legion.

The American Legion, Post #193 Van Nuys division, gave six Valley nursing students a financial boost Monday to help cover the heavy educational expenses incurred by their field of study.

Nursing students, Susan Cattaneo, Claudia Jenkins, Leslie Johnson, Martin Levi, Roberta Robinson and Philip Stansbery, were each presented with $500 in scholarship money by Robert M. Myers, judge advocate from the American Legion.

The six students were chosen by the nursing scholarship committee, comprised of Valley's nursing faculty members, from a total of about 18 applicants.

They were selected for their academic strength, financial need and their relations to servicemen, according to Mary Lou Davis, department chairperson.

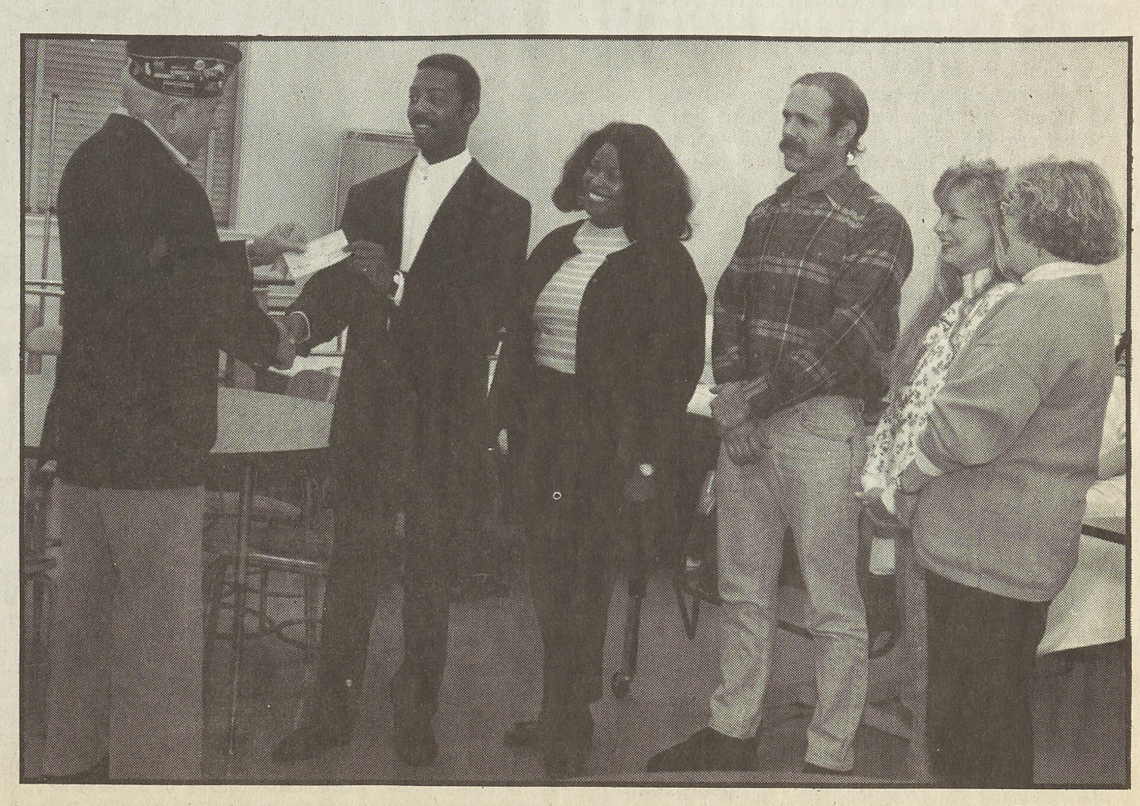
"The six students are very worthy, hardworking students and we had confidence that they would complete the program and go on to be good nurses," Davis said.

Rounding up his fourth semester with the program, Johnson said he thought it a great honor to be presented with the scholarship. He plans to move on to Cal State LA to pursue a masters in nursing.

This is the second year the American Legion has donated money to the program and Myers expressed his hopes to be able to continue the donations for more students.

"We're looking forward to doing it again next year. We're here to help veterans and their children—to stand together. It's just a case of raising the money to do it," Myers said.

"It was a very generous donation and we hope they will do it again," Davis said.



LEN LY / Valley Star

THE AMERICAN WAY — Robert M. Myers, judge advocate from the American Legion, distributes $500 scholarship checks to six Valley students on Monday.

'Dynamic' professor remembered

By MILES GRANDFIELD
Staff Writer

Dr. Lorraine Eckhart Kimball, a retired Valley College professor who died Sept. 7 while on a tour of Eastern Europe, is being remembered by friends and colleagues as a dynamic and innovative force in the academic and cultural community.

Kimball, who was 76, began her college education at LACC and went on to earn her BA and MA degrees at UCLA, and her doctorate in Music at USC. She became a member of the faculty at Valley in 1955.

During here tenure at Valley, Dr. Kimball helped to initiate a popular series of concerts that showcased music by women composers. She is also remembered for her efforts in the Athenaeum Series which brought to campus such speakers as Eleanor Roosevelt, paleontologist Louis Leakey, and former British prime minister Clement Attlee.

After her retirement in 1980, Kimball conducted Master classes in piano, and was a frequent performer in local symphonies and recitals.

"Dr. Kimball was a great example of how someone can begin at a community college and go on to achieve a distinguished level in the academic world," Dr. Eleanor Hammer, Valley professor of music, said.

Kimball is survived by a sister.

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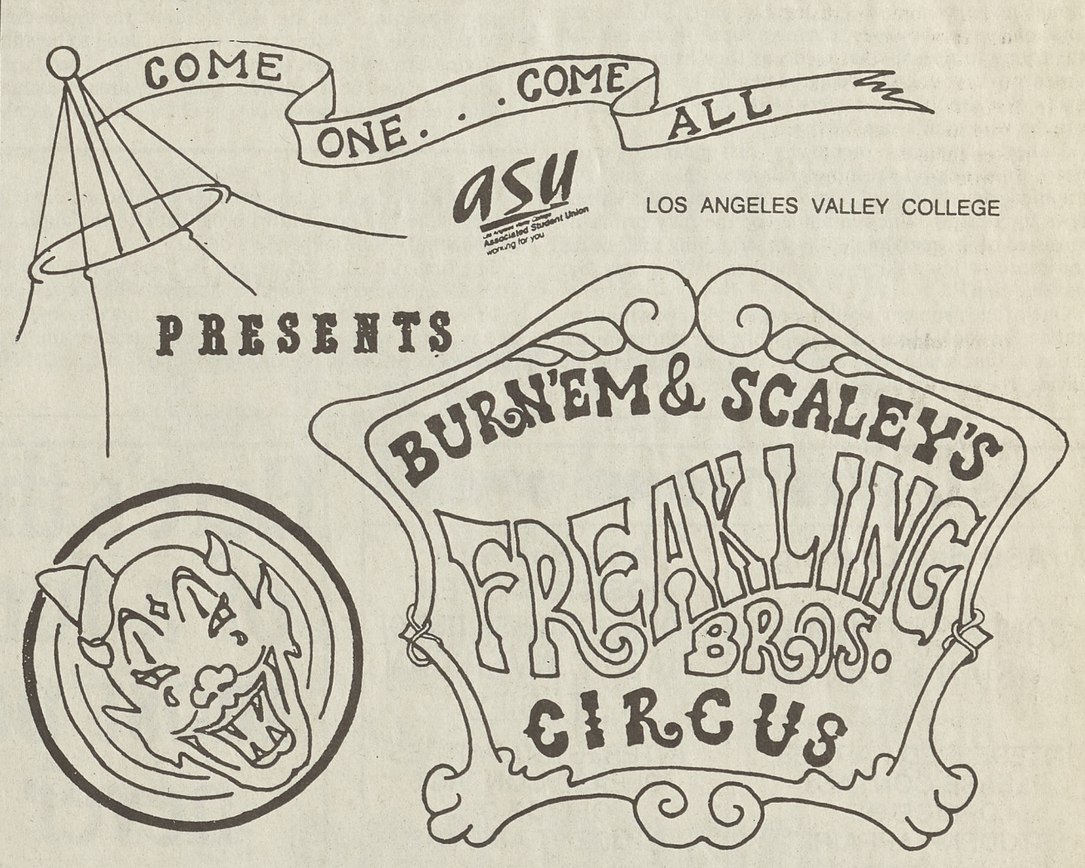

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Theater review

Lower Depths takes a deep plunge

By JAE LEVINE WEISS
Staff Writer

Valley's first major play of the semester reflects a valiant attempt by the Theater and Cinema Arts Dept. to portray the hopelessness of poverty. Tunde Ikoli's adaptation of Maxim Gorky's *The Lower Depths*, however, falls far short of it's lofty aspirations.

If Gorky's original version had a significant story to tell about the struggles of the underprivileged, at last Thursday's opening night, the message got lost in the translation. What the audience experienced instead was the often inaudible grousing and drunken bickering of a variety of incompatible indigents sinking together in a poorly executed plot.

The play opened with a forcibly contrived attempt to introduce the audience to the cast of characters residing in the squalid London rooming house.

The actors kept popping out of a series of doors, exchanging insults in garbled dialects and disappearing again. I was reminded of the parting shots of the 60's television comedy show, *Laugh-In*.

Following along became even more difficult because all around me the audience kept asking one another, "What are they saying?...Can you understand them?"

As if trying to hear above the audience complaints weren't enough, an actor actually lit a pipe on stage, filling the small unventilated theater with smoke. Several people in the audience began to cough and gasp for breath. Some of the disgruntled patrons, mostly senior citizens, filed down the aisles, loudly announcing, "I can't breath in here!" while waving the air with their playbills.

These distractions won the attention of the remaining audience who had by now tired of the pointless mumbling on stage. I had to move my seat when the woman behind me, slumped in her chair, began to snore.

I kept waiting for the on-stage plot to thicken. It didn't. I kept waiting for characters to have startling revelations. They didn't. I kept waiting for the play to have meaningful symbolism. It did. And when it did, it had all the impact of an overwritten Hallmark card.

The character, Talker, for example, was presumably meant to symbolize the spiritual, hopeful nature of life. He appeared as a quasi-Christ-like figure whose presence was supposed to cause the other characters to re-evaluate their lives. More like the second coming of Mr. Rogers than Guru to the unwashed masses, the thought-provoking pearls of wisdom delivered by this uninvited self-help-book-come-to-life included, but were not limited to: "There's nothing to stop you except yourself... I believe in you... Get away from everything that's causing you so much pain... That's the spirit!... Life goes on!... I think in the final analysis, its the thought that counts... If we put our minds to it, there's nothing stopping us from improving our lives... Time is never wasted."

After each of these parables the requisite response from the recipient was one version or another of, "Oh Wow, I never thought of that before!"

At one point Talker said (about being nice to one another), "It doesn't hurt and it takes no pain, and that's the truth!" My husband, along with the half of the audience who remembered Lily Tomlin's "Edith Ann," responded with simultaneous raspberries

My favorite piece of unasked for advice was, "One should never be the last to leave a party." I lost my sense of humor, however, during a scene where the cast was trying to decide what to do as they listened to the screams of a young girl being beaten by her brother-in-law. "We shouldn't interfere with family business," was the wise man's sage advise.

Talker's character mercifully disappeared shortly after this helpful recommendation. He was not crucified, merely evicted. He reacted to this piece of bad news by knitting. The remainder of the play primarily consisted of the remaining players scratching their heads and more or less asking one another, "Who was that masked man?"

One of the problems with the production was that any real action took place off stage while the actors mused about it. One death, one beating, one murder, and one suicide, the true dramatic moments, were only discussed or overheard. Each of the three times someone died, an actor opened a door and with his back to the audience announcing, "Oh look! He's dead!"

The first rule of good writing is, "show, don't tell!" This advice could have come in handy to the playwright.

In the final scene, an alcoholic teacher gave a soapbox lecture, then walked off stage. Moments later the prostitute was heard to shout from behind the set, "The teacher's cut his wrists!"

The audience perked up again, (those of us still awake and breathing,) expecting something interesting to happen that might get us all, finally to the point. Instead the stage went dark, followed by the cast coming back to take their bows. "That's it?" someone in front of me asked. "What happened?" the woman behind me who had been snoring wanted to know. "I don't know," answered her friend. "I guess it's over."

It is important to note, despite the way it sounds, that this was meant to be a drama, not a comedy. This fact was not clear to some of the audience who were polled.

"If was supposed to be funny, I didn't get it," Christine Garza, a Valley student remarked.

"If it was supposed to be serious, I didn't get it," responded her friend, Natalie Makhanian, also a student at Valley. "I wanted to get in and stay in, but they kept losing me," the theater arts major added

"It was really difficult to understand," Garza agreed, "They could have done a lot better."

The sinking of *The Lower Depths*, is in no way the fault of the cast, who worked earnestly to bail it out. The audience seemed to agree that Annie, played by Monica Turner, lit up the stage.

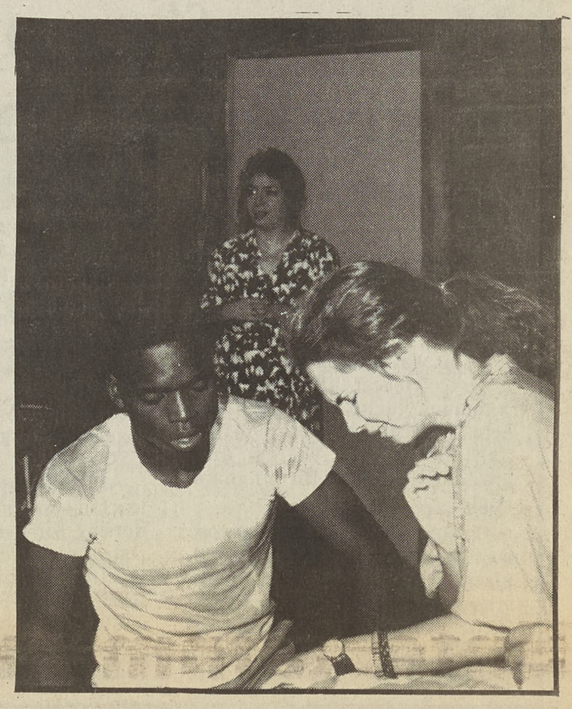
Shavar Ross, as the volatile Errol, was a much needed electric presence. He brought life and power to his character, as did Ramona Muhammad in the part of the street-wise prostitute, Melonie. The other actors did their best to push uphill against the downhill slide of the piece itself.

I've seen some wonderful work come out of the theater arts department. Last year's performance of *Cabaret*, for example, was the best production of that musical that I have ever seen. As much cannot be said, however, of *The Lower Depths*. The title, unfortunately, says it all.

The 'Depths' of despair—

(l) Errol (Shavar Ross) knocks out Mr. Koli (Brad Barnholtz) in a dispute over Nicola. (below) After the fight, Errol tries to comfort a distressed Nicola (Corinne McLuckie).

Photos by Vladan Holec



Profile: Hayes directs real life

By VLADAN HOLEC
Staff Writer

"I picked *The Lower Depths* because of its significant social relevance and then because it is an ensemble play. All the characters in it are well rounded and about equal in size, therefore all of my students get to act equally." said Dr. Donald Hayes about the play he is currently directing at Valley.

"Not only do we get to explore the characters and social implications of this turn-of-the-century Maxim Gorky play, brilliantly adapted and set in contemporary London by Tunde Ikoli, a renown East End black playwright and filmmaker; but we got to study various accents and the make-up designs. I teach my students real acting, not what's become known as 'Hollywood' acting," continued Dr. Hayes in evenly controlled bursts of energy.

He was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. Growing up in a poor and broken family was not easy for him, but he makes no bones about it. After all it was a driving force for him to pursue the education and be where he's today. And being where he's today he enjoys immensely: a tenured Ph.D., professor and an author.

He attributes his accomplishments to being able to listen, to hear the right instructions from his teachers, and adds "One of the problems today is that most of the young people do not want to listen to their teachers. Most of my students are ignorant, not in generic sense of being fools, but in a sense of ignoring certain facts of life, knowledge of which would help them improve their life situation. I try to teach them that because I've gone through a lot myself. Being prepared for life academically is not enough, you have to have a life experience as well, or you come out short."

"Everybody wants to be successful, but not everybody has an idea what it takes to be successful. Or if they do, they don't have the goal, or the enthusiam, or the initiative to do it, so I try to teach them that too.

My friends ask me why I teach junior college, why don't I teach university. I tell them that I am for the under-dog. I prepare the underdog to be able to enter the university. There's more challenge in that than teaching people who are already excellent in their academic skills."

"That's another reason I picked *The Lower Depths*. I am militantly for under privileged, for those who are victimized by the circumstances, by the society, or even by themselves, as long as they're willing to engage in changing their lives. I identify myself with the Talker character. Like him, I do believe that everybody has the power within themselves to change their lives. That's why I like doing what I'm doing and that's why I think I'm good at what I'm doing."

He toured Europe, worked as a professional singer and a comic in night clubs and has had several major national commercials to his credit.

He earned his B.A., M.A. and Ph. D. at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

He currently teaches Speech Communication, Theater Atrs, and Black Make-up Design at Valley and next semester, he starts a new class *T.A. 120, History of the Afro-American Theater*. His second book *Politics and Polemics - Discussions on the Contemporary African-American Theater* is being published by Stageplant Press.

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Here's the part of a fur coat most people never see.

This cat, caught in an illegally set trap within city limits, did not survive. Found with a shredded paw and in great pain, it had to be euthanatized.

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It's not a pretty sight. When a steel-jaw trap is triggered, the heavy steel jaws snap shut with such force that efforts to escape tear flesh and muscle, crush bone, and leave animals in such intense pain and terror that many chew off their paws trying to escape.

Many trappers fail to check their traps promptly, leaving animals in agony for days, often succumbing to starvation, freezing, or predators.

The steel-jaw trap has been banned in at least 67 countries. But in recent years, American fur trappers have used the trap to net most of the 17 million fur animals trapped annually. Another 5 million "non-target" animals, including pets, become victims each year. This is a shameful waste of animal life.

The Humane Society of the United States is working to abolish the use of the steel-jaw trap throughout the nation. But we need your help to achieve the strong, unified voice it will take to end the use of this barbaric device. If you oppose this cruelty to fur animals for the sake of vanity, support an end to the use of the steel-jaw trap. **In this day and age, people should be ashamed to wear fur.**

This raccoon is caught in a "dirt bank set" of a steel-jaw trap; these sets leave dozens of animals dangling by their trapped limbs, in severe trauma, hemorrhaging, and dying.

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Jazz review

Valley's Jazz Band swings

● The Valley College Jazz Band, directed by Woody James, had the audience at last Thursday's concert singing its praises.

By SANDRA CHAVIRA
Staff Writer

Several minutes before the doors opened; people began to congregate outside the Monarch Hall last Thursday, Oct. 24, waiting to hear the Valley College Jazz Band.

The crowd, composed bystudents of all ages, entered promtly with eager faces. The doors closed early at 11:05 a.m., and the concert, pleasantly conducted by the band director, Dr. Woody James, began with a slight change on the program.

The band opened with a number that was not on the program, "South of the Boarder," with the remarkable participation of soloists Bill Woodman on the sax, Jack Feierman on the trumpet and Jack Nickson on the piano.

"Funky Monkey," a Brad Dechter composition, received a juicy amount of applause. The audience visibly enjoyed the alto saxophone solo in this tune and the beautifully melodious background pulse of the guitar, played by Ricardo Gomez. This piece got the audience moving their heads along the music and tapping on the floor with their feet.

After the cheerful, vibrating "Funky Monkey" rhythm, came the calm, relaxing beginning of "Stella By Straight," by Victor Young, with a Bill Holman's arrangement. In this one, Tom Fabre showed once more his musical talent. He performed with closed eyes adding emotion to the moment as he played an alto saxophone solo that harvested an enthusiastic ovation from the audience.

Tony Terran's performance on the trumpet and Jack Redmond on the trombone strongly called the public's attention in Brad Dechter's arrangement, "Getting Sentimental Over You."

One of the most welcome melodies was "Star Eyes," a medium tempo arrangement by Woody James, that had a slight taste of tropical music, mostly at the beginning. The precise interaction of the instruments produced a fascinatingly smooth melody that made the arrangement sound wonderful although the arrangement was so new that one of the players had seen the piece only once before.

Two Billy Byer compositions were played also; "All of Me" and "Brand X." The one hour concert finished with "The Song is You" as a closing number. Woody James pointed out afterwards that the professional quality of the band players is a result of their axtensive experience, some of the instrumentalists having five or even six years playing together, a few being brand new.

By the end of the concert, many favorable comments were heard. Masako Koga, a foreign student commented, "Because they were students, I thought they would not be so professional or so good; but the more they played, the more relaxed we all got. They had a nice, smooth music going on. It was good! It was good!"

"I enjoyed it very much, the alto saxophone soloist was wonderful," said Hebe Herrera, a music student. Brent Black, another spectator said he thinks of the band as a real jazz band and of the director as a good arranger maker. Probably most of the people present will agree with Black,"Good arrangements, that's what makes it.

NBC finally tells the truth

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Entertainment Editor

This season, NBC announced that it would have the "quality shows." Never being one to accept anything at face value, I've decided to examine this lofty statement.

They have already screwed up Sunday nights. My opinion of disgust has previously been expressed here regarding the pseudo-television show *The Adventures of Mark and Brian*. Can you say DUMB? Rumors of cancellation are already flying.

In haitus oblivion are *Man of the People* and *Pacific Station*. Very good sit-coms. Neither standard fare. But the ratings stank. Their replacement? A country music variety show. Oh, *that'll* pull the viewers in. I don't think so.

Friday nights, all of America is rewarded with *Flesh 'n Blood*. It's all flesh. The word *duh* comes to mind.

On the other end of the spectrum, however, is the majority of NBC's line up.

Monday night's *Fresh Prince of Bel Air* and *Blossom* are fabulous, funny and filled with laugh-out-loud lines. Though they're somewhat standard, stock shows, they are a step above the rest.

Every episode of Saturday's *Empty Nest* makes me laugh. Admittedly, it's sometimes silly, but hillarious all the same.

But the best sit-com on NBC has to be *The Torkelsons*. It is rare that words like *substance* and *quality* can be applied to a laugh-track sit-com; *The Torkelsons* resoundingly qualifies. Olivia Burnette plays Dorothy Jane Torkelson, a melodramatic 14-year-old who is constantly brought down to earth by her utterly (and often embarrassing) normal family. The show is set in Pyramid Corners, Oklahoma and is authentically Southern. Believing this loving, touching funny show requires absolutely no stretch.

Besides the wonderful sit-coms, NBC has blossomed in an area where the other networks have dramatically withered: The one-hour drama.

The recession and the decline of network viewers have caused the other networks to all but eliminate their dramas. NBC just added more.

I'll Fly Away, *Law & Order* and *In the Heat of the Night* are dramas that tackle serious issues in a sensitive manner. The writing is educated, informed and intelligent. Words flow from the scripts to the actors to the audience effortlessly.

And Friday's *Reasonable Doubts* stars Marlee Matlin, a deaf actress. Wow! It wasn't too long ago that network officials would have laughed that premise to death.

The best of NBC's dramas, though, is *Quantum Leap*. You should have seen my eyes roll when I first heard about this show a few seasons ago when it debuted as a two-hour movie. I heard the premise: A time-travelling scientist (within his own lifetime) is doomed to leap in and out of other people's bodies helping them rectify things that went wrong the first time they lived. I was disgusted. A time-travelling scientist? Only NBC! I was so wrong.

The show isn't really about time travel; it's about people.

Scott Bakula is beautiful as Sam Beckett, the scientist. That is all I need to say; but I'll elaborate anyway. He is sensitive, funny, loving and kind. The episodes where his singing skills have been utilized (Bakula was nominated for a Tony as Best Actor in a Musical for his work in *Romance Romance* on Broadway.) have been some of the best.

Tyrrell's Tirades

No matter what the plot, the show is consistently well done. Last night Sam leaped into the body of a rape victim. What an interesting perspective. Only *Quantum Leap* could do something so complicated so right.

Sam's partner through all his adventures is Al (Dean Stockwell). This man is indispensable. He is a constant sense of comic relief and, although his acting style differs from Bakula's, is a genius on screen.

It's no wonder the show—and the actors—are repeatedly nominated for Emmy's.

Years ago, I called NBC NBSLEAZE. The network kept putting on fluff shows with idiotic plots and women traipsing around in teddies. At that time, NBC was the No. 1 rated network, credited mostly to Brandon Tartikoff, then president of NBC.

Today, Tartikoff is making movies. NBC began to decline in the ratings soon before Tartikoff's departure.

It's interesting, though, NBC's shows improved massively and the ratings dropped significantly. Maybe that says something about the viewing audience.

I never—ever—thought I would say this, bit it is true: The quality shows *are* on NBC.

● MOURNING 'STAR'

I'm not a *Star Trek* fan. I'm sorry. I am not a science fiction fan and, therefore, could never get into the show.

But last Thursday, when Gene Roddenberry (*Star Trek*'s creator) died, it hit me pretty hard.

That's because I know the impact that man had on the public. Of my eclectic group of friends, probably 85 percent are Trekkies (or Trekkers as some say is proper).

Some of them are my age, some older, some students, some professionals—all different people with one common denominator: *Star Trek*.

They watch every episode, both old and new, faithfully. They wear Spock shirts and even go to fan conventions.

Roddenberry created a national phenomenon out of a futuristic dream of an equal world.

The fact that his death could make me—and other non-*Star Trek* fans—feel a loss says a lot about him. He will be missed.

Entertainment Briefs

Teacher's band airs on KLOS

Terry Martin, instructor of English at Valley, and his band, "White Noise," will have their radio debut Tuesday night at midnight on KLOS (95.5 F.M.).

"White Noise" will air on "Local Licks" with Joe Benson and will have their entire three-song demo played.

IMS screens *The Graduate*

IMS FILMEX will show *The Graduate* starring Dustin Hoffman, Anne Bancroft and Katherine Ross Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Behavioral Sciences 101 at 1:30 p.m.

The Graduate is directed by Mike Nichols who won a 1967 Academy Award for Best Direction. The film runs 105 minutes.

Three one-act plays presented

The Theater and Cinema Arts Department will present three free one act plays during November.

First, a drama, *Poor Old Jim* by William C. DeMille, on Nov. 8 at 1 and 8 p.m.

Second, a comedy, *The Ties That Bind* written by Matthew Witten and directed by Dan Murphy, on Nov. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m.

Third, a drama, *Penguin Blues* directed by Beatriz Flores, on Nov. 22 and 23 at 8 p.m.

All three plays will be presented in the Shoebox Theater (TA-101).

Wind ensemble to perform

The Valley College Wind Ensemble will perform on Monday Nov. 4 in Monarch Hall.

The ensemble is directed by Irvin Pope.

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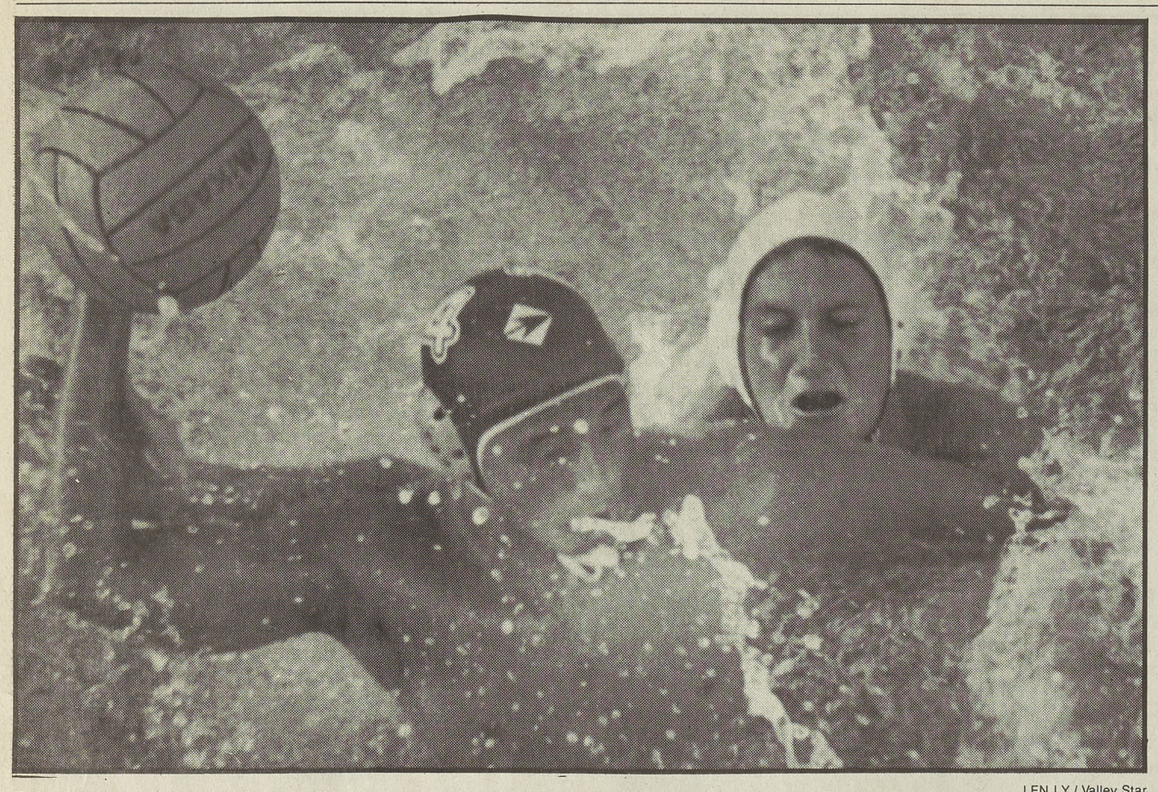


LEN LY / Valley Star

COUNTDOWN — With two minutes left at the end of the fourth quarter, Wells from Cuesta fouls by hitting the back of Valley player Rossi's (#4) hand. Cuesta won the game, 11-8. Yesterday's game in Pasadena brought Valley's record to (18-7-3).

Valley gets stuck in mud

By MILES GRANDFIELD
Staff Writer

The recent three-game winning streak enjoyed by the Valley football team came to a muddy end in Bakersfield, Saturday, as the Monarchs went down to defeat 10-7.

Demonstrating Valley's weakness in the passing game since first-string quarterback Chris Gadomski was sidelined with a shoulder injury three weeks ago, starter Michael Wynn and backup Phil Parker completed no passes in six attempts, with two interceptions.

That left only the running game, which seemed to be enough in the first quarter. Nigél Bostic gained 109 yards in the period, and Valley led 7-0 with a scoring drive on their first possession.

With a 3-3 record, Valley will face Southwest College this Sat. at 7:30 p.m.

But Bostic aggravated a knee injury in the second quarter and the Monarch offense stalled in the dreary weather, gaining a dismal 91 yards in the last three quarters.

Bakersfield scored 10 points late in the first half on a rushing touchdown, and a 31-yard field goal.

The touchdown came after the Renegades intercepted a pass by running back Terrance Brown.

In the second half, neither team was able to score, although the Renegades dominated the time of possession.

"It was a disappointing loss," said Valley head coach Jim Fenwick. "We got off to a good start, but we let them get some momentum and then couldn't get started again."

This Saturday at Monarch Stadium, Valley will try to improve its 3-3 record in a game against LA Southwest at 7:30 p.m.

Valley douses Ventura

By ABRAM MORRISON
Staff Writer

LEN LY / Valley Star

Valley's water polo team won its fourth game in a row with a 5-0 forfeit win over USC's Junior Varsity last Thursday which improved Valley's record to (15-7-3, 5-1-0).

Because of the forfeit, Valley was forced to play an intrasquad exhibition game between the sophomores and the freshmen. The freshman lost to the sophomores 15-11.

Sophomore player Robert Brown scored seven goals and teammate Mark Banducci tallied three goals.

Meanwhile, Monarchs Pat Karayan and Steve Barron did the brunt of the scoring for the freshmen. The twosome combined for nine goals with Karayan scoring five times.

Tim Fredrickson's only goal of the game for the sophomores was a big one. This goal won the game with 3:39 left in the third quarter.

Last week, in another game, Valley had its hands full with Ventura but managed an 11-9 win.

Brown scored three times to raise his total to 79 goals this season. He scored the game-winning goal with 1:15 remaining in the third quarter.

Barron also scored three times and Karayan tallied two goals.

Ventura's Piester led the Pirates' attack with three goals.

Valley is in second place in the WSC with a 5-1-0 conference record. They trail Cuesta in the WSC standings.

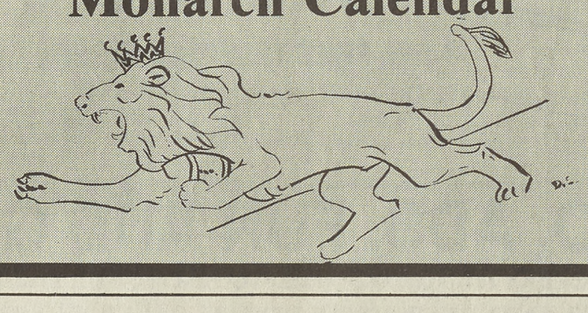
"Only 12 water polo teams from Southern California make the playoffs," Coach Bill Krauss said.

The head coaches meet on Nov. 4 to determine what teams make the playoffs and what cedes these 12 teams get. The best Valley ever did in the post season was a sixth place finish in the Southern California playoffs.

Valley will be on the road at Pierce tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. This is the last regular season game.

The post season start on Nov. 6 with the Southern California playoffs. The Southern California Championships will be held in Long Beach on Nov. 8-9. The State playoffs and the State Championshipwill held in Northern California on Nov. 15-16.

Monarch Calendar



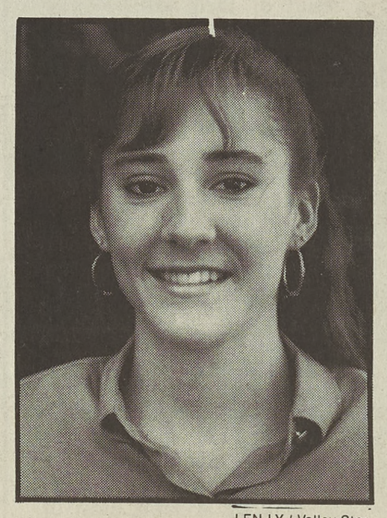
WATER POLO
Nov. 1: 3:30 p.m.
Valley vs. Pierce
(At Pierce)

FOOTBALL
Nov. 2: 1 p.m.
Valley vs. Southwest
(At Southwest)

Sports feature—

Serpa displays dedication; hard work pays off

By DAVID HELLESKOV
Staff Writer



LEN LY / Valley Star

Shelby Serpa

Recently awarded athlete of the month for cross country, North Hollywood High graduate Shelby Serpa continues to strive actively to always improve in distance running.

"I mostly ran sprints in my junior year. Doug Humphries, assistant coach at North Hollywood, asked if I'd like to join cross country," Serpa said. "In my senior year, I became more actively involved in distance running."

Serpa said that a runner must have dedication and the desire to train and work hard.

"Practices occur five to six days a week, and we run about 6-9 miles for each practice," Serpa said. "Two days of speedwork focus on sprints, while on distance days we run on hills and flats in the East Valley, including Griffith Park."

As a result of cross country, Serpa has gained self-confidence and a sense of discipline. "Cross country is an individual sport in that you try to improve your times from race to race, but one must run their best for the team as a whole," Serpa said.

Serpa, a sophomore at LAVC, ran track, cross country and played basketball in her senior year. "I love basketball and played for my sophomore, junior and senior years in high school."

Serpa achieved a 3.9 grade point average last year, making the dean's list, and became a member of Tau Alpha Epsilon, Valley College's honors society. She also served as commissioner of athletics with the student council in high school.

Serpa received the MVP (Most Valuable Player) award in cross country for her 11th and 12th grades.

"My mother has always pushed me to work hard and do my best," Serpa said. "Dean Elliot, assistant coach at North Hollywood, influenced me to train hard and stay focused on improvement in tournament."

Serpa says that LAVC's head coach James Harvey has been instrumental in her determination of running and helping to always improve her times in races and overall talent.

As for her future plans, Serpa said, "I want to run after I transfer, but as for running professionally, I'll see what happens."

LAVC
ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

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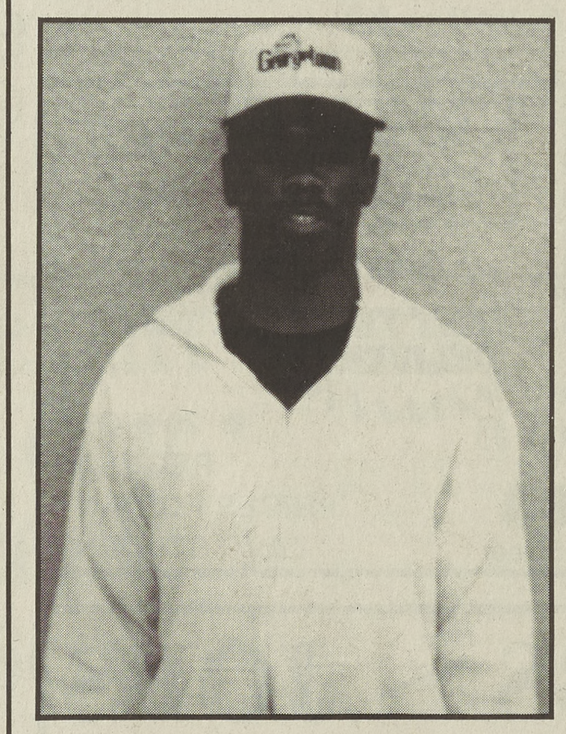
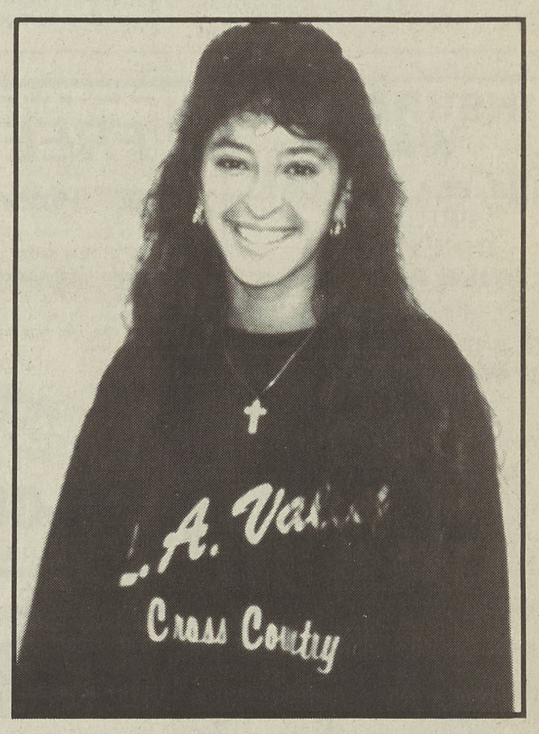


LAMONTE WASHINGTON
Football
LAVC SOPHOMORE - San Fernando H/S

Lamonte is a two-year starter at defensive back. He is a Number One Punt Returner in the Western State Conference and a Number Eight Kick-Off Returner. He has been player of the week two times against Moorpark and Ventura.



MARIA LOPEZ
Women's Cross-Country Runner
LAVC SOPHOMORE - Chatsworth H/S

Maria placed 16th in the Western State Conference Cross Country meet. She has a 3.36 GPA and is on the Los Angeles Valley college Dean's List.

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